GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:544
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
TALKS WITH ULFA
Borkataky Shri Narayan Chandra

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is initiating direct talks with ULFA;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done;

(c) whether the talks with People`s Consultative Group (PCG) on ULFA is still going on; and

(d) if so, the details of progress achieved so far in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SMT. RADHIKA V. SELVI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) of LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 544 FOR 21.10.2008

(a) & (b): The Government is open to talks with any militant groups including United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) provided they shun violence. The Government has not received any formal proposal from ULFA for direct talks.

(c) & (d): Three rounds of talks were held with Peoples' Consultative Group (PCG), set up by ULFA, between October 2005 to June 2006. However, since there was no direct response from ULFA, and there were reports regrouping, new raising, movement of stores/arms, violence and extortion by ULFA cadres, the talks could not proceed further.